

# Millom Urban Sanitary District.

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

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*Summary of action taken during the year ending  
December 31st, 1905, to prevent the  
spread of disease.*

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**Small-pox.**—No cases.

**Scarlet Fever.**—Twenty-six cases were reported. No deaths. This is a decrease of 97 from last year, when there were 122 cases.

In December we had two cases from outside the District sent in, but as our Isolation Hospital is not yet ready, they were isolated in a temporary building, which is a considerable distance from any other houses.

**Diphtheria.**—Four cases, no deaths. I have called the attention of the Sanitary Authority to the necessity of supplying serum gratuitously in these cases, thus saving considerable expense by their removal to hospital, but so far I have received no instructions in the matter.

**Erysipelas.**—Six cases, 2 deaths.

**Enteric Fever.**—Three cases, no deaths. No cause could be found for these cases; in one instance a drain had sunk a little, and this was at once attended to.



**Influenza.**—There were two deaths.

**Enteritis.**—Three deaths.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**—Nine deaths : Five female, four male.

**Other Tubercular Disease.**—Five deaths.

This makes 14 deaths from various forms of tuberculosis. This gives nearly 10 per cent. of deaths as due to tubercle.

The request made to the medical men in the district to report these cases has proved a failure, not one having been reported in the four years.

**Measles.**—An epidemic of measles visited the district during May, June, and July, and there were over 300 cases, and, unfortunately, 17 deaths.

The first intimation of the outbreak I received was from the School Attendance Officer, who informed me that 70 children were absent from one school from this cause. The school was at once closed and disinfected. It was then too late to ask for compulsory notification, as many others were affected, and it is most infectious in its incubation stage, before there is any evidence of the disease. Everything possible was done, in the way of closure of schools, disinfection, and isolation, and the epidemic, which was very sudden in its commencement, was just as sudden in its termination.

Special reports were sent to the Council on this subject.

The District lies between high hills and the estuary of a river, and is about one mile on its outer side from the sea.

The soil is clay, with a subsoil of sand and gravel in places.

The great bulk of the inhabitants are Iron Ore Miners and Blast Furnacemen.

**The Water Supply** is good, being upland surface water, and is pure, there being no drainage into it, and is of ample quantity.

No water is used except from the Council's mains.



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**The House Accommodation** is more than sufficient for the demand, there being about 120 empty in the district, and eight new ones built during the year. The total number available for separate tenements is 1,993.

There is plenty of air space both within and around the houses.

**Excrement.**—Water closets are now all over the district. There are no defects. The sewers discharge into the estuary of the River Duddon, near the sea.

**Removal and Disposal of House Refuse** is undertaken by the Council's own men. The removals were 28,216, as compared with 25,683 last year.

**Sewerage and Drainage** is complete in all parts of the district, and is under constant supervision, all defects being at once made good.

**Pollution of Rivers.**—None.

**Common Lodging Houses, Slaughter Houses, Dairies, Cowsheds, Bakehouses, &c.,** have been inspected during the year, and any nuisance or defect at once reported to the owner or occupier.

**Offensive Trades.**—Not any.

**Factory and Workshops.** — Thirty-two were inspected during the year. No defects were found.

**Nuisances.** — House-to-house inspection is carried out, and notices are served without delay to remedy defects or abate nuisances, and in nearly every case are attended to at once.

10 Yard Drains were cleaned or repaired.

6 Yards paved or re-laid.

8 Water Closets cleaned or repaired.

4 Slopstone pipes lengthened or repaired.

8 New gullies.

1 House was found in dirty condition.



**Notification of Disease.**—Scarlet Fever, 26 ; Enteric, 3 ; Erysipelas, 6 ; Diphtheria, 4 ; Puerperal Fever, 2 ; Total, 41. This is a decrease of 116 on last year. Disinfectants have been supplied gratuitously in every case reported ; house, clothing, bedding, &c., fumigated, or sent to the steam disinfectors, and the School Attendance Officer and Librarian have received early notice of each case.

**Isolation Hospital.**—The district is still without one, but an arrangement has been now made with the rest of the Bootle Union, and a Joint Hospital Committee formed, and they have already begun to build a Hospital on a suitable site within this district.

**Reports** have been sent to each Council Meeting during the year, shewing the systematic inspection made during the interval between each meeting. With the Inspector of Nuisances, each house has been visited at least once during the year, and a special visit was made to each house reported as having infectious disease, or any nuisance to which special attention was called.

**Zymotic Disease** caused 24 deaths, an increase of 10 on last year, giving a death rate of 2.16 per 1,000 from this cause only.

**Phthisis** death rate is only .82 per 1,000.

**Deaths.**—There were 142 deaths, or 12.32 per 1,000, an increase of 13 on last year ; 40 were under 1 year, 28 over 65. 75 deaths were of females, and 67 of males.

The infantile mortality is 142.32 per 1,000. One death of a resident occurred outside the district.

**Births** numbered 267, or 24.21 per 1,000, an increase of 22 on last year, but still below the average.

I enclose statistical table, as required by the Local Government Board.

(Signed),

**PERCY B. STONEY,**

Medical Officer of Health.

January 18th, 1906.

